

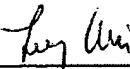
REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

This preliminary amendment is filed together with the National Phase Entry of PCT Application PCT/CA02/01841 for reducing excess claim fees. Accordingly, the Applicant has amended several claims to remove multiple claim dependencies. In particular, the Applicant has amended claims 4, 10 and 16 to depend from independent claims 1, 7 and 13 respectively.

The Applicant submits that none of the above-noted amendments introduce new subject matter into the application and can be inferred from the parent PCT patent application as originally filed. If the Examiner has any questions regarding these amendments, he/she is welcome to contact the undersigned at 416-957-1603.

Respectfully submitted,

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